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*Pimpinellifoliae* on account of its single bractless flowers, its numerous acicular spines, and its small leaves ; but it recedes in its pinna-tid calyx-lobes.—*G. Engelmann.*

### New Species of North American Fungi.

By J. B. ELLIS.

**VOLUTELLA DIAPHANA.**—Punctiform, minute, white, substipitate, marginal hairs few, straight, hyaline, septate below and united by a membrane, which forms a receptacle filled with the oblong-elliptical, hyaline, 1-2-nucleate spores, .0002' long.

Very near *V. Hyacinthorum*, Berk., but apparently distinct.

On decaying leaves of *Orontium aquaticum*. October.

**HELICOSPORIUM MICROSCOPICUM.**—Tufted, minute, scarcely visible without a lens. Tufts cinereous-brown, consisting of a prostrate, subhyaline, branching hypha, with erect, faintly septate branches bearing lateral, closely coiled, .0005' in diameter, 12-20-septate, pale brownish spores of about two coils.

The manner of growth seems to be as follows : The tip of the young erect thread coils upon itself and forms a spore, after which the same thread pushes its growth still further, but in a direction a little inclined to that of its former growth, when the tip coils again in a direction opposite to that of the first coil, forming a second spore. Whether this manner of growth is continued further I have not observed.

The spores or conidia soon fall away, and the thread that bore them becomes erect and straight. The mature spores are slightly constricted at the septa.

On decaying staminate catkins of *Alnus serrulata*, lying on the ground in damp thickets. June.

**ISARIOPSIS GRAYIANA.**—Appearing like a thin, tufted, brown pubescence. Tufts .005' high, composed of numerous, rather slender (.0001' in diameter), closely septate, subnodulose threads, more or less abruptly bent above, and bearing at their tips the small, .0002'—.0003', oblong-elliptical, simple or uniseptate spores.

Occasionally, some of these spores become more elongated and 2-3-septate.

On old canes of *Rubus villosus*, lying on the ground. West Chester, Pa.

**ZYGODESMUS RUDIS.**—Hypha coarse, showing only here and there the zygo-desmoid joints ; spores, or conidia, subglobose, strongly but rather sparingly echinulate, about .0003' in diameter.

Forming a thin, light ferruginous stratum on the under side of a charred cedar log. Found also on decaying *Rhus venenata*.

**VALSA DIDYMOSPORA.**—Perithecia 6 to 10, globose, .013' in diameter, circinating on the surface of the inner bark, and circumscribed by a black line which penetrates the wood, but not deeply ; ostiola cylindrical, about equal in length to the diameter of the perithecia, converging with their tips united and bent upwards, piercing the epidermis, which is only slightly elevated ; asci clavate-cylindrical, small, .001'—.0012' x .00015' ; sporidia minute, .000125'

long by half as wide, composed of two globose cells united into an oblong spore.

When the epidermis is peeled off, the perithecia generally adhere to its inner surface.

On dead limbs of *Ilex opaca*. March.

VALSA CERCOPHORA.—Perithecia few, 4 to 6, rather large, imbedded in a subcarbonaceous stroma, which is circumscribed by a black line penetrating the wood; ostiola stout, obtuse, with a large opening, united into a subconical disk, which pierces the epidermis and rises slightly above it; asci clavate-cylindrical, .003'—.0033'x.0004'—.00045'; sporidia biseriate, oblong-elliptical, constricted in the middle and appendiculate at each end, .0004'—.0006'x.00015'—.000175', hyaline, with several small nuclei.

The appendages, which are finally absorbed, are as long as, or longer than the spore itself, and the upper one is generally recurved at its extremity. The limbs on which this species grows are not so much decayed as those on which the preceding species is found, being still sound and tough.

On dead limbs of *Ilex opaca*. March.

VALSA FARINOSA.—Stroma cortical; perithecia few (2 to 4,) pale, .013' in diameter, raising the bark into little prominences, which indicate their position; disk tuberculiform, yellowish white, of a loose granular or mealy substance; ostiola large, pale horn-color, ovate or conic, at length disappearing and leaving a large opening; asci clavate-cylindrical, obtuse; paraphyses indistinct; sporidia 1- or 2-seriate, acutely elliptical, subhyaline, with a large central nucleus, about .0006'x.0002'.

Very variable with regard to the ostiola, which are often entirely wanting. Some of the stromata contain perithecia filled with brown, appendiculate stylospores of about the same size and shape as the ascospores, and which appear referable to Dr. Cooke's genus *Harknessia*.

## Fern Notes. V.

By GEO. E. DAVENPORT.

*Notholaena tenera*, Gillies.—This rare fern, which Dr. Parry found so unexpectedly in Utah, in 1874, has again turned up, but this time in the San Bernardino Mountains of California, where it was discovered in May last by the Parish Brothers, who write that it was found "growing very sparingly in two neighboring cañons at an altitude of perhaps 5,000 feet. In both places it grew in crevices of precipitous limestone cliffs, which were quite dry at the time of our visit, and do not seem to be ever really wet. In one cañon there was a single specimen, and in the other some twenty or more, but most of them dry, and the others, as you see, in poor condition."

The specimens which I have received are clearly identical with the Utah plant, and differ but little from Parry's or Palmer's specimens.

It has already been recorded (Ferns of North America, Vol. i., p. 337) that some doubts exist in regard to the correct identity of the Utah plant, but the figure in *Botanical Magazine* (Vol. lviii., plate